LEGATION OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

No. 18. Bucharest, October 20, 1933.

Subject: Mr. Titulescu's Visit to Turkey.

TREATY DIVISION
NOV 29 1933
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DEPT. OF STATE REC'D COM. & DIP. NOV 7 33

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To the Field
In U. S. A. ✓
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DEPARTMENT OF STATE
A-C/C
DEC 4 - 1933
ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE

DEC 5 - 1933

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
NOV 9 - 1933
DIVISION OF
NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

The Honorable

The Secretary of State,

Washington.

Sir:

I have the honor to refer to the Legation's despatch No. 8 of October 5, 1933, regarding the impending visit of the Rumanian Minister for Foreign Affairs to Ankara, and to report that Mr. Titulescu was in the Turkish capital from October 15 to October 17.

The visit was marked by the usual round of receptions, dinners and luncheons, with speeches about the undying friendship between Turkey and Rumania and the great factors for the peace of the world which the two nations represent. The Rumanian press reports that the reception was extremely cordial and quotes numerous articles from

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DEC 8 - 1933

Turkish

Turkish newspapers in praise of Mr. Titulescu as one of the outstanding statesmen of Europe.

On the last day of Mr. Titulescu's stay in Ankara a treaty of friendship, non-aggression and arbitration was signed between the two countries. This treaty has been acclaimed by the Rumanian newspapers as being the first agreement of this nature based on the Politis definition of the aggressor and one in which the law of neutrality is entirely ignored in that each nation agrees that it cannot remain passive in the event of an attack on the other by a third party. Local editorial comment points to this treaty as a great step forward in consolidating the peace of the world, and calls the attention of the western powers to the fact that this time "the light has come from the Orient." The countries of the Occident are counseled to follow the example of Rumania and Turkey, who have come to such complete understanding in the interests of peace.

The full text of the treaty is not available here at the present time. It is presumed that it will be forwarded to the Department by the Embassy in Constantinople.

Commenting a few days ago on Mr. Titulescu's visit to Turkey, Mr. Savel Rădulescu, Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, said to a member of the Legation staff that the peace in Southern Europe is rapidly being assured and that the new treaty with Turkey marks the end of that country being considered one of the defeated powers with an axe to grind, and that henceforth the Turkish Government will work with Rumania, the Little Entente and all of the countries who defend the peace

treaties

treaties and the status quo. He neglected to mention Turkey's attitude with regard to the demilitarization of the Dardenelles.

Respectfully yours,

Alvin M. Owsley.

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LEGATION OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

No. 74. Bucharest, February 3, 1934.

Subject: Visit of Turkish Minister for Foreign Affairs, Tewfic Rusdi Bey, to Rumania.

FOR DISTRIBUTION - CHECK Yes No
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The Honorable

The Secretary of State,

Washington.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAR 8 - 1934
DIVISION OF
NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

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Sir:

I have the honor to inform the Department that the distinguished Turkish Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr. Tewfic Rusdi Bey, arrived in Bucharest on the morning of January 31, 1934, at about the hour of 10:40.

The Rumanian press announces that Mr. Bey was met at the station by the Prime Minister, Mr. Tătărescu, and the Under-secretary for Foreign Affairs, Mr. Savel Radulescu, and other Ministers.

The program of the day called for a luncheon at the home of Mr. Titulescu, Rumanian Minister for Foreign Affairs, at which time a lengthy discussion took place

between

between the two Ministers for Foreign Affairs of Turkey and Rumania, lasting until the hour of 5 P.M. The rumor is circulated that the two ministers discussed at length the Balkan Pact and the collaboration of the two countries, Rumania and Turkey, towards a furtherance of the ambitions publicly expressed to bring closer in accord the interests of the Balkan countries, and if possible to corral Bulgaria as one of the countries signing the Pact.

The program of the entertainment of the Turkish Minister for Foreign Affairs called for a dinner in his honor at the Turkish Legation by Hamdullah Suphi Bey, the Turkish Minister to Rumania, and a luncheon with His Majesty King Carol at noon on February 1.

Mr. Tewfic Rusdi Bey, in company with Mr. Titulescu, departed on the evening of February 1 for Belgrade.

During the opening session of the Rumanian Parliament, Mr. Tewfic Rusdi Bey occupied a box close to the platform from which the King delivered his regal message, and was the center of interest and conversation.

Respectfully yours,

Alvin M. Owsley.

Alvin M. Owsley.

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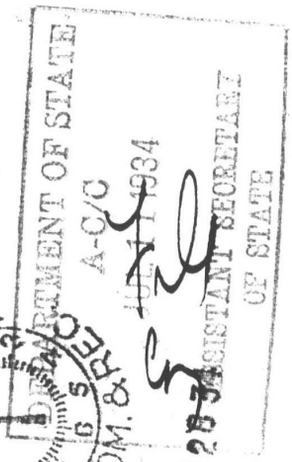
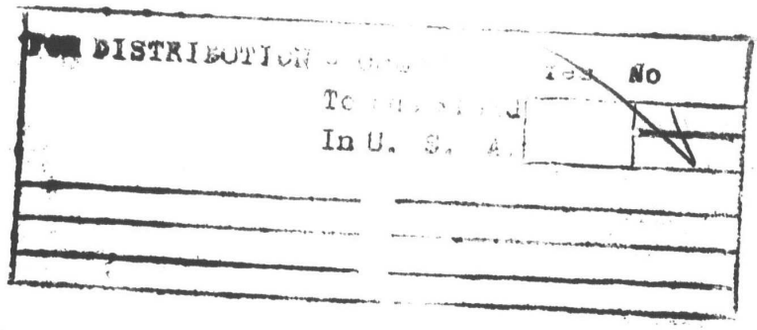
t.- [illegible]
AMO:EMS.

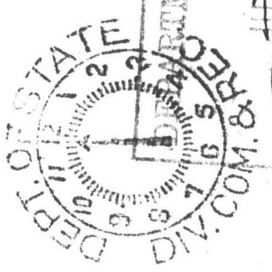
LEGATION OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

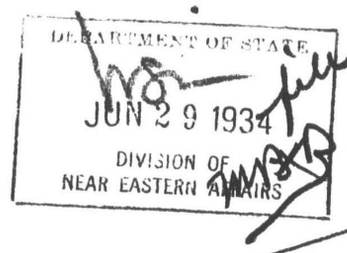
No. 125. Bucharest, May 12, 1934.

Subject: Visit to Bucharest of Tewfic Rusdi Bey, Turkish Minister for Foreign Affairs.









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DEPARTMENT OF STATE
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DIVISION OF NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS
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JUL 12 1934
DIVISION OF WESTERN EUROPEAN AFFAIRS
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JUL 13 1934

The Honorable

The Secretary of State,

Washington.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform the Department that Tewfic Rusdi Bey, Turkish Minister for Foreign Affairs, arrived in Bucharest on Friday, May 11, 1934. The distinguished Turkish Minister was met at the station by Mr. Titulescu and a group of Rumanian statesmen, members of the Ministries and other dignitaries. The Turkish Minister will in all likelihood be received with the greatest of cordiality and sincere appreciation of his personality and his official mission at this time.

The two countries of Rumania and Turkey find themselves in complete accord on most of the questions that

are

are pressing before them for solution. To quote one of the Rumanian papers, the DIMINEAŢA of May 12: "There is not a single divergence now between Rumania and Turkey."

Tewfic Rusdi Bey not only comes to Rumania to return the courtesy visit of Mr. Titulescu recently made to Turkey, but it is apparent that the recent developments growing out of the signing of the Balkan Pact are giving no little concern both to Titulescu and Tewfic Rusdi Bey. There is a growing sentiment and belief that Greece will soon withdraw from the Balkan Pact. The failure of Yugoslavia to agree to a time limit, and leaving her action "wide open" with reference to the time controlling her devotion to the treaty, has brought about a doubtful and questionable condition as to the real and genuine worth and value of the Pact. The Rumanians, and no doubt we can now add the Turks, are very much alarmed over the recent pronouncement by Mussolini, expressing his sympathy for the present condition of Austria and Hungary, and more particularly, the fear is arising because of the pressure that is apparently truly coming from Italy on Greece.

Mr. Titulescu, speaking for Rumania, and Tewfic Rusdi Bey, speaking for Turkey, would find themselves as representatives of their respective countries out on a limb, and at the end of the limb, if the center or the body of the tree should break in two. In other words, with Turkey on one end and Rumania on the other, with Greece, and perhaps Yugoslavia falling out or withdrawing from the Pact, it would leave the recently heralded victory of the Turkish and Rumanian Foreign Ministers an empty one.

It

It is worth repeating here that the countries of the Near East, and I should add, of Western Europe and the "Balkans", are like an ant-hill right now. The declarations of Germany concerning particularly disarmament, the recent development of Italy expressing her sympathy for Austria and Hungary, the apparent backing out of the Balkan Pact by Greece, and the rapprochement of Poland with Germany with the ten-year understanding of the status quo of frontiers between their respective countries, has brought about a great deal of consternation in the smaller countries. It is quite evident that the allies of France are frightened, and they are demanding an expression from their "leader" and a closer adhesion and understanding on a future course. The Rumanians have about reached the conclusion that no result can come from a Disarmament Conference, and that there must be a taking up of the slack of those countries now in alliance with France. France will be the leader of one group, and it is not beyond conservatism to anticipate a contest for leadership on the other hand by Italy. Just how far Italy is going to encourage Germany through her sympathetic utterances for Austria and Hungary a few months off will tell.

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This is the situation as I now see it after extended conversations with the Ministers of the several countries accredited to Rumania. The freedom with which the Ministers talk about their problems is one of the very interesting things to me. There is apparently no restraint on their part when they are asked for their views on present situations and policies concerning their respective countries. The Little Entente is trembling with

fear

fear because of the position Germany is taking on the disarmament question. They are frightened because of the position Italy is taking concerning Austria and Hungary. They are not willing to trust each other fully and absolutely to abide by the treaties or pacts that are now in existence. If they can find the money or cam obtain credit, it looks now as though they will go forward with feverish haste at further preparations for war.

Respectfully yours,

Alvin M. Owsley.

Alvin M. Owsley

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# DOCUMENT FILE

# NOTE

SEE 867.9111/424 FOR Report #-

FROM Istanbul (Elting) DATED Dec.12, 1934

TO NAME 1—1127 ...

REGARDING: Grand National Assembly convened in extraordinary session on October 24, presumably to ratify treaties with Yugoslavia and Rumania which grew out of the Balkan Pact.Treaties probably contain important declarations of friendship.

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Digest of the Turkish Press
For the period September 23 - November 30, 1934.

## DOMESTIC AFFAIRS.

### The President.

The Gazi returned to Ankara in September and until the opening of the Assembly two months later, did nothing which the press could report save inspect a few Government buildings in the capital.

### The Ministers.

Rumored Fusion Of Ministries

The press reports a rumor that the Ministry of Customs and Monopolies may be suppressed and incorporated with the Ministries of Finance and Economy. It is also rumored that the Ministry of Agriculture may be abolished and its functions transferred to the Ministry of Economy. These changes will not be made until March 1, 1935, if at all.

### The Grand National Assembly.

Special Session

On October 24 the Grand National Assembly was convened in extraordinary session, presumably to ratify treaties with Yugoslavia and Rumania which grew outof the Balkan Pact. The press is unable to learn the terms of these two treaties, signed in June, but it is stated that they doubtless contain important declarations of friendship and that their immediate ratification is made necessary by the turn of events abroad. It may or may not be significant that the convocation of the Assembly coincides with the return of Tewfik Rueştue Bey from Belgrade.

On November 1 the fourth session of the Fourth Grand National Assembly was opened by the Gazi with a speech on

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the state of the nation. He leads off with an account of the steps taken toward industrialization in the past year, touches on commercial relations, agriculture, railroads, finances, sound money, public hygiene, and education with special reference to history and language. One section of the speech is devoted to a discussion of Turkish music. He expresses the hope that developments will be along modern lines, thus anticipating the edict outlawing the traditional Turkish compositions. He closes with a statement regarding Turkey's continued efforts in the cause of peace and a few well chosen words in praise of the Balkan Pact.

Regular Session Opened By Gazi

# DOCUMENT FILE

# NOTE

SEE 767.68119/907 FOR #82

FROM Rumania ( Hibbard ) DATED May 1, 1936

TO NAME 1—1127 GPO

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REGARDING: Modification of Straits Convention.

Rumanian reaction to Turkish request for -.Titulescu's indignation at Turkey's failure to consult members of the Balkan Entente.

Wi

No. 82 Bucharest, May 1, 1926.

Rumanian Reaction to Turkish Request for Revision of the Treaty of Lausanne.

767.71/907

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The Honorable

The Secretary of State,

Washington.

Sir:

Due to the long Easter holidays and the absence from the country of Mr. Titulescu, Minister of Foreign Affairs, the request of Turkey for the revision of the Treaty of Lausanne received very little comment in the Rumanian press. Officials of the Foreign Office were very non-committal in their statements but evinced little surprise or resentment and their feeling seemed to be shared by the public generally. It was felt that the Rumanian

reply

reply to the Turkish note - when made - would follow the lines of those of the Great Powers in expressing a willingness to consider the matter at an appropriate time. There was added a feeling of gratification that Turkey had requested revision in a legal manner rather than resorting to treaty violation as had Austria and Germany. In spite of this apparent calm, it soon leaked out that Titulescu was most indignant at Turkey's request. It had been taken for granted in Bucharest that, prior to the issuance of the note to the League of Nations and the treaty signatories, Turkey had consulted with her allies in the Balkan Entente. Such now appears not to have been the case. In spite of the legality of Turkey's procedure, Titulescu had again been confronted with a "fait accompli", though of a different and less dangerous type, and in the present tensity of feeling in Europe, the shock to his nerves is comprehensible. Turkey's failure to discuss her proposed action with her allies of the Balkan Entente could easily be interpreted as indicating lack of confidence in them and disruptive of that solidarity of alliances which Titulescu has striven so hard to create. He considers any weakness in the common front presented by the Little and Balkan Ententes particularly dangerous at this time and with the meeting of both groups due to be held in Belgrade in early May, he feels that Turkey might well have delayed so short a time and have informed her allies prior to the actual dispatch of her request. In addition he feels that Turkey's request has come at an inopportune time as it has added to the

feeling

feeling of unrest and uneasiness so prevalent in Europe. However his main preoccupation is that if Turkey's claims are met, even partially, Hungary and Bulgaria will be encouraged to request revision of the military clauses of the Trianon and Neuilly Treaties. If the request of these countries is made in the same manner as Turkey has made here, Rumania will find it difficult to refuse consideration and it is well known that Titulescu is not only opposed to any change in the status of these countries but wishes to avoid any discussion of treaty revision affecting them.

In some circles it is felt that Rumania need not be alarmed at the militarization of the Dardanelles for although she suffered by the closing of the Straits during the Great War, both Turkey and Soviet Russia are now considered friendly and the same difficulties are not likely to arise again. Others see no cause for anxiety as in spite of Great Britain's amicable reception of the Turkish request, it is thought she will not permit, in the last analysis, any fortifications which will vitally affect her line of communications to the Black Sea.

Something of Mr. Titulescu's feelings were evidently transmitted to Istambul for he found awaiting him upon his return to Bucharest, April 24th, M.Numan Menemcioglu, Secretary General of the Turkish Ministry for Foreign Affairs. His visit had not been previously announced and although he said upon arrival that he had come to visit the numerous friends made in Bucharest while en poste at the Turkish Legation, there was no atmosphere of informality surrounding his movements.

By

By this time the Sud Est Press Agency had indicated in newspapers abroad Rumania's displeasure at Turkey's request. This statement was denied in Istambul but Mr. Menemcioglu finally allowed it to be known that he was discussing the matter with Mr. Titulescu. There was much bouquetting and official visiting in the utmost outward cordiality and it is presumed that Mr. Titulescu's ruffled feelings have been somewhat appeased. However, no announcement has been made of any conclusions reached and Foreign Office officials are more reticent than before. The peripatetic Foreign Minister has now gone to Belgrade for the meetings of the Little and Balkan Ententes where the matter will undoubtedly be discussed again and after that some statement may be made of Rumania's attitude.

Respectfully yours,

Frederick P. Hibbard,
Charge d'Affaires a.i.

A true copy of the signed original

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Copy to Constantinople.

# DOCUMENT FILE

# NOTE

767.71/10

SEE 767.68119/914 FOR #32

FROM Turkey ( MacMurray ) DATED May 12, 1936
NAME

TO

1—1127

REGARDING: Modification of Straits Convention.

Encloses copy of note from Rumanian Foreign Minister and copy of Turkish reply thereto concerning -.Comments on negotiations between the two Governments on the matter.

Wi

Istanbul, Turkey, May 12, 1936.

No. 32

Subject: Exchange of Notes between Turkey and Rumania regarding the remilitarization of the Straits.

767.71

The Honorable

The Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to transmit herewith the text, as published in LA REPUBLIQUE of May 7, 1936, of a note of April 29, 1936 from the Rumanian Minister for Foreign Affairs to the Turkish Chargé d'Affaires at Bucharest, as well as the Turkish Government's reply dated May 5, 1936. This exchange of notes is considered to represent the outcome of a series of conversations between officials of Rumania on the one side, and Turkey and certain members of the Balkan Union on the other, regarding Rumania's hesitancy in accepting the remilitarization of the Straits by Turkey. Immediately after

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ter the delivery of the Turkish notes of April 10th, formally announcing to the powers signatory to the Treaty of Lausanne a desire for revision of its military clauses, reports began to be received in Turkey that Rumania would raise objections. In fact, during the course of the conversation between the Turkish Minister for Foreign Affairs and Mr. Shaw, Counselor of this Embassy, on the evening of April 10th (see Despatch No.20 of April 14, 1936) the former was called to the telephone and was informed by the Turkish representative in Geneva that M. Titulesco was fearful of the effect upon Hungary and Bulgaria of the Turkish action with regard to the Straits Convention. On April 20th the Berlin radio station broadcast a report that a difference of opinion had arisen between Rumania and Greece on the question of the Straits. According to this report, Greece did not wish to oppose the Turkish project, while Rumania was trying to persuade her to do so and to advocate the maintenance of the status quo. The Secretary General of the Turkish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, M. Numan Menemendjioglu, who had planned a trip to Moscow, changed his itinerary at the last minute and went by way of Belgrade and Bucharest. It is understood that this was for the purpose of bringing about agreement to Turkey's proposals on the part of all the members of the Balkan Union and especially of Rumania. His efforts were apparently successful; and Rumania, before the meeting of the Balkan Union in Belgrade, expressed,

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in the form of the enclosed note, her willingness to discuss with sympathy the revision of the straits convention.

Respectfully yours,

J. V. A. MacMurray.

Enclosures:

1. Text of Note from Rumanian foreign minister to Turkish charge d'Affaires at Bucharest, dated April 28, 1936;

2. Text of reply from Turkish charge d'Affaires at Bucharest to Rumanian minister for foreign Affairs, dated May 5, 1936.

Copies sent to Athens, Belgrade, Berlin, Bucharest, Geneva, London, Moscow, Paris, Rome, Sofia, and Tokyo.

A TRUE COPY OF THE SIGNED ORIGINAL

Enclosure No. 1 to Despatch No. 32

of May 12, 1936, from the Embassy at Istanbul.

COPY

TEXT OF NOTE FROM RUMANIAN MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS, DATED APRIL 29, 1936, TO TURKISH CHARGE D'AFFAIRES AT BUCHAREST.

Le Gouvernement Royal de Roumanie a l'honneur de confirmer la réception de votre note du 11 avril 1936.

Vu que la Turquie n'a jamais mis et ne mettra jamais en discussion les clauses territoriales des traités concernant la Roumanie.

Vu qu'entre la Turquie et la Roumanie il existe les traités de Londres en date des 3 et 4 juillet 1933 qui interdisent pour toujours l'agression et en donnent en même temps une définition précise par des règles qui sont à la base des relations internationales des deux pays.

Vu qu'entre la Turquie et la Roumanie il existe un sentiment de confiance et une amitié agissante en vue du maintien de la paix, par le Pacte Balkanique signé le 9 février 1934.

Le Gouvernement Royal de Roumanie, prenant en considération spéciale les circonstances particulières que caractérisent les rapports turco-roumains, a l'honneur de vous communiquer qu'appréciant les nécessités de la sécurité balkanique, il accepte d'entamer, dans l'esprit le plus amical, les négociations dont traite votre note du 11 avril 1936.

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Enclosure No. 1 to Despatch No. 32

of May 12, 1936, from the Embassy at Istanbul.

COPY

TEXT OF REPLY FROM TURKISH CHARGE D'AFFAIRES AT BUCHAREST, DATED MAY 5, 1936, TO RUMANIAN MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

J'ai l'honneur de vous accuser réception de votre note du 29 avril dernier, que vous avez bien voulu me faire tenir en réponse à celle de mon Gouvernement datée du 11 avril 1936.

Entendant avec un vif plaisir que le Gouvernement du pays ami et allié se rallie à la thèse de mon Gouvernement relative à la question des détroits et qu'il ne manquera pas de la soutenir dans les ens délibérés, je m'empresse de porter à votre connaissance que mon Gouvernement est entièrement d'accord avec le contenu de la note susmentionnée de votre Excellence.

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# DOCUMENT FILE

# NOTE

767.71/11

SEE 767.68119/965 FOR #114

FROM Rumania ( Harrison ) DATED July 25, 1936

TO NAME 1—1127

REGARDING:

Rumania's friendship for Turkey.

Comments on indications of - at the Montreux Conference.

Wi

LEGATION OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

No. 285 Bucharest, March 16, 1937.

Subject: Departure of Foreign Minister Antonescu for Ankara.

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE
APR 6 - 1937
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ASSISTANT SECRETARY
OF STATE

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The Honorable

The Secretary of State,

Washington.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
APR 7 1937
DIVISION OF
NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

Sir:

I have the honor to report that Foreign Minister Antonescu left Bucharest yesterday evening for Ankara, where he will pay the official visit to Turkish Foreign Minister Rustu Aras which he had recently to postpone because of illness (despatch No. 259 of February 19, 1937). He was accompanied by Mrs. Antonescu, two Foreign Office officials and the Turkish Minister to Rumania, Mr. Suphi Tanriöer.

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There is no indication that the visit is calculated to serve any other purpose than that of affording

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a "further manifestation" of friendship and solidarity between these two members of the Balkan Entente and so far as is known the conversations of the two Foreign Ministers will be of a general rather than a particular nature.

Respectfully yours,

Frederick P. Hibbard

Frederick P. Hibbard,
Chargé d'Affaires ad interim.

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LEGATION OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Bucharest, March 23, 1937.

No. 295

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Subject: Foreign Minister Antonescu's Visit to Ankara.

DIVISION OF EUROPEAN AFFAIRS
JAN 4 1938
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

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ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
APR 19 1937
DIVISION OF
NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

The Honorable

The Secretary of State,

Washington.

Sir:

All the reports and comment regarding Foreign Minister Antonescu's recent (March 17 to 19) visit to Ankara, as well as the communiqué issued at its close, seem to be in accord with the suggestion I had the honor to make in my despatch No. 285 of March 16th last 767.71/12 to the effect that the trip apparently had no particular purpose or aim, but was rather a matter-of-course rounding-out of the series of visits which Mr. Antonescu announced some months ago in connection with the statement that he believed it a Foreign Minister's duty to be

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JAN 7 - 1938

be in personal contact with the heads of allied and friendly States.

During the three days spent in Ankara Mr. Antonescu had conversations with President Ataturk, Premier Inonu and Foreign Minister Rustu Arras, and ran the usual gamut of calls, dinners, receptions and statements to the press. Reports reaching Bucharest indicated no special developments or achievements beyond those mentioned in the communiqué, which spoke of a general examination of the international situation, the inevitable "identity of views", agreement on certain measures to develop commercial relations between the two countries and a plan for the extension of cultural relations by an exchange of students and professors.

1/ A translation of the communiqué as it appeared in the Rumanian press is attached hereto.

Local commentators, of course, welcomed this "further manifestation of solidarity" between the two Balkan Entente members, according the visit the customary drums and fanfare accompaniment without discovering any particular point of interest. Translations

2/ of representative comment form the second enclosure hereto.

The present season is one of numerous visits on the part of Rumanian and other Balkan statesmen.. As Mr. Antonescu returns to Bucharest, Prime Minister Tatarescu is off to Prague (see separate despatch), Minister of National Education Angelescu is in Warsaw (also reported separately), Mr. N. N. Saveanu, President

of

of the Rumanian Chamber of Deputies, left yesterday for Belgrade to arrange for the next meeting of the Parliamentary Conference of the Little Entente, a Rumanian delegation is attending the meeting of the Economic Council of the Balkan Entente, and Mr. W. Constantinescu, Governor of the National Bank of Rumania, is visiting Paris, Brussels and Berlin in order to study the different financial institutions. Next week Foreign Ministers Antonescu and Krofta will attend the meeting of the Permanent Council of the Little Entente at Belgrade, to which city President Benès will pay an official visit a few days later, Premier Tatarescu appears to have accepted Premier Inonu's invitation to Ankara and will probably go there toward the end of April, and finally it is expected that Prime Minister Inonu and Foreign Minister Rustu Arras will return the Antonescu-Tatarescu visits by coming to Bucharest on May 10th for the celebration of the Rumanian national holiday. It is rumored that on this occasion Mr. Stoyadinovitch, Mr. Hodza and possibly other Balkan and Little Entente statesmen will be present, but there is not yet any official information in this regard.

Respectfully yours,

Frederick P. Hibbard,
Chargé d'Affaires ad interim.

Enclosures:
1- Translation of communiqué.
2- " " press comment.

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Enclosure No. 1 to Despatch No.
of March 23, 1937, from the
American Legation, Bucharest.

COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT CLOSE OF FOREIGN MINISTER ANTONESCU'S VISIT TO ANKARA

(Translated from CURENTUL of March 21, 1937)

.....

During his visit to Ankara His Excellency Mr. V. Antonescu was received by Mr. Kemal Ataturk, President of the Turkish Republic, and had long and friendly conversations with the President of the Council, Mr. Ismet Inonu and with the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr. Tewfik Rustu Arras, during which a full and detailed examination was made of the present international situation and of the means for speedily putting into effect the decisions taken at Athens at the time of the last session of the Permanent Council of the Balkan Entente. The statesmen of the two allied countries had opportunity to note with satisfaction that a perfect identity of views exists between them with regard to all questions which were the subject of their discussions.

In touching upon the questions which directly interest Rumania and Turkey, Messrs. Ismet Inonu, Rustu Arras and V. Antonescu gave special attention to the economic relations between the two friendly countries which they would like to see developed and decided that an economic delegation should go to Bucharest very soon to have contact with competent Rumanian circles with a view to laying the basis for a new commercial accord. Up to the time of the conclusion of this accord, it was decided that the two Governments should grant reciprocal special facilities looking to an increase in the volume of trade.

In addition, to the end of strengthening cultural relations between the two friendly and allied countries, they agreed upon an exchange of students and professors and the creation of chairs at the faculties of the respective universities for courses in the Turkish and Rumanian languages.

In Translation

Enclosure No. 2 to Despatch No. of March 23, 1937, from the American Legation, Bucharest.

PRESS COMMENT ON FOREIGN MINISTER ANTONESCU'S VISIT TO ANKARA

LUPTA (independent, unofficially National Peasant) of March 19, 1937.

The visit of Mr. Victor Antonescu has taken place in an atmosphere of great cordiality and has provided an occasion for a series of important manifestations affirming the profound friendship which unites the two allied nations.

INDEPENDANCE ROUMAINE (official French organ of National Liberal Party) of March 19.

..... The friendship, the mutual esteem, the close collaboration between the two countries (Rumania and Turkey) is becoming more accentuated each day. The personal relations between the Rumanian and Turkish statesmen are becoming, they also, more and more affectionate, confident and understanding.

VIITORUL (Government party's official organ) of March 19.

Mr. Rustu Arras has taken the initiative and conducted pour-parlers to the advantage of the work of consolidating peace. He has often visited our capital, where he is known and appreciated not only in political circles but also in the circles of the elite of Rumanian society.

On the occasion of the present visit of Mr. Victor Antonescu to Ankara Mr. Rustu Arras has once again proved the friendship of his country for Rumania.

March 20.

Mr. Victor Antonescu's visit to Ankara falls into the category of those manifestations of sincere friendship which Rumania exhibits towards all her neighbors in the superior interests of understanding and of peace, which constitute the imperative of the present hour. The rapprochement between Turkey and Rumania finds its motive in this will to general peace and in the community of interests, which alone would be able to guaranty the tranquil development of the two countries and of their prosperity.

UNIVERSUL (independent, nationalistic, anti-Semitic) of March 20.

..... The identity of interests and of dangers, the

absence of any cause for friction or for conflict, the mutual sympathy between the two peoples, together with the wisdom and loyalty of the directors of the destinies of the two States constitute a guaranty that Turko-Rumanian relations will become more and more friendly and cordial.

LUPTA of March 20.

Through the visit which he has just made to Ankara Mr. Victor Antonescu has added a new and precious contribution to his happy diplomatic activities in the way of affirming and consolidating alliances, which are considered in Rumanian public opinion to be the cornerstones of our foreign policy.

CURENTUL (anti-Semitic, subsidized by National Liberal Government).
March 20.

From the reports arriving at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs from Ankara it appears that the visit of Mr. Victor Antonescu in the capital of the Turkish Republic has taken place in an atmosphere extremely favorable to the diplomatic conversations.

March 23.

The Rumanian Minister of Foreign Affairs is able to render an optimistic account of his diplomatic activity at Ankara. Relations between Turkey and Rumania will feel the benefits of the Ankara accords and in this way the eastern antenna of the Balkan Entente will prove itself to be among the most powerful.

LE MOMENT (independent, in French) of March 21, 1937.

The manner in which the visit to Ankara of our Minister for Foreign Affairs took place, the cordiality of the interviews which occurred, as well as the terms of the final communiqué permit us to conclude that the Rumano-Turkish friendship is becoming not only more close but that it is tending to take an active and positive character, forming itself into a close collaboration, even into a most sincere and durable alliance.

.....

EMBASSY OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Istanbul, Turkey, April 6, 1937.

No. 252

SUBJECT: Visit to Ankara of Victor Antonesco, Rumanian Foreign Minister.

DIVISION OF WESTERN EUROPEAN AFFAIRS
MAY 19 1937
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

OFFICE OF ECONOMIC ADVISER
MAY 19 1937
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

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" " Embassy, Berlin

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MAY 13 1937
DIVISION OF NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

767.71/14

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MAY 21 1937

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
A-C/O
MAY 14 1937
ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE
767.71

The Honorable

The Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform the Department that M. Victor Antonesco, Rumanian Minister for Foreign Affairs, accompanied by his wife, his private secretary, and M. Kretzeano, Director of Political Affairs in the Rumanian Foreign Ministry, paid an official three-day visit to Ankara beginning on March 17th, 1937. He arrived in Istanbul on March 16th and, after making the usual courtesy call on the Vali and laying a wreath on the monument to the Republic in Taxim Square, he proceeded to Ankara the same night.

M. Antonesco

SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE SECRETARY
MAY 21 1937
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

M. Antonesco had originally planned to visit Turkey some two months ago but, at the last moment, failed to do so. His eleventh hour plea of illness was received with incredulity and failed completely to mollify his would-be hosts, whose plans for his reception were thus, as they felt, so cavalierly disregarded.

The resulting Turkish pique and annoyance were quite forgotten, as far as could be seen when M. Antonesco arrived in March and had, at least on the surface, been replaced by feelings of the warmest esteem; and his visit provided an occasion for a manifestation of rather effusive intra-Balkan-Entente cordiality.

Although curiosity was exhibited in certain quarters as to the "real reason" behind M. Antonesco's visit, it is generally considered that it had no particular significance other than as a visit of good will and courtesy such as was recently made to Turkey by the Yugoslav Prime Minister, M. Stoyadinovitch (despatch No. 153 of November 13, 1936), and to repay Dr. Aras for many similar visits to Bucharest made while going to and coming from Geneva. In fact, M. Antonesco informed the press that his visit to Ankara was one of a series of courtesy calls on neighboring Chiefs of State he was in course of making for the purpose of "coming into contact with the governments of Rumania's friends and allies".

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Before leaving Turkey, M. Antonesco, after stating that he had encountered only a "perfect understanding"

in

in all Turkish quarters, and after reaffirming his desire to strengthen the Balkan Entente, made, inter alia, the following remarks:

> GERMANY: "Rumania can never agree to place itself within Germany's sphere of influence. The economic desires of Germany are incompatible with Rumania's own. We have agreements with France, England, the Central European countries and all the countries of the world, and our national interests are founded on those agreements. Rumania cannot be expected to allow its foreign commerce to be monopolized by, nor its economic interests to conform to the desires of Germany".

662.7131

> HAPSBURG RESTORATION: "While it is true that some persons desire to present this question as one of purely internal interest to Austria, the problem is essentially one of international importance and our Government will not hesitate to adopt the view already adopted by M. Stoyadinovitch before the Yugoslav Parliament. The Hapsburgs cannot return either to Vienna or to Budapest: the Little Entente will definitely oppose it".

863.01

In so far as is concerned anything of a specific nature, other than a possible contribution to the store of Balkan Entente good will, which resulted from M. Antonesco's visit, the Embassy has learned nothing with which to supplement the Turkish Government's official account. A communiqué released to the press on March 19th stated that M. Antonesco had had conversations with President Atatürk, General Ismet Inönü and Dr. Aras, and that upon the subjects discussed there had been a complete identity of views; that he had discussed with General Ismet and Dr. Aras the economic problems confronting their respective countries, chiefly as a result of the failure of the Turkish-Rumanian Commercial Agreement to function properly,

667.7131

properly, and that in the latter respect it had been decided to send a delegation of Turkish economists to Bucharest with a view to establishing a basis for a new commercial accord, but that pending the conclusion of such an agreement special measures should be taken to increase exchange facilities. (The mission, headed by Mr. Faik Kurtoglu, Under Secretary in the Ministry of Economy, was later reported to have left for Bucharest on March 22.)

The official communiqué stated further that the two Governments had decided to exchange students and professors, and that to this end a Chair of Turkish studies would shortly be established in a Rumanian University and a corresponding Rumanian Chair in a Turkish University.

On leaving Ankara on March 19, M. Antonesco gave a press interview which included the following notable appreciation of the Ghazi:

> "His eyes are as deep as the sea. They are an enigma to anyone who does not know the key to friendship. Atatürk is greater than a great man. Atatürk is a volcano in which the fine sentiments of humanity tremble; a volcano by whose friendly lava one is warmed".

Respectfully yours,

J. V. A. MacMurray.

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Copies to Legations in Bucharest, Athens, Belgrade, and Sofia.

LEGATION OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

No.346 Bucharest, May 19, 1937.

Subject: Visit of Foreign Minister Rustu Arras in Bucharest, en route to Geneva.

DIVISION OF EUROPEAN AFFAIRS
JAN 4 1938
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

OFFICE OF THE ADVISER ON INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC AFFAIRS
JAN 7 - 1938
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A-M/C
JAN 3 - 1938

ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE
1937 JUN

SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE
JAN 5 1938

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUN 3 1937
DIVISION OF NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

767.71/15

The Honorable
The Secretary of State,
Washington.

Sir:

I have the honor to report that the Turkish Foreign Minister, Dr. Rustu Arras, stopped for a brief visit in Bucharest en route to Geneva, arriving here on the morning of May 16th and leaving the following evening. He had several conversations with Prime Minister Tatarescu and Foreign Minister Antonescu, but little is reported as to their nature beyond the fact that they dealt with the general international situation and questions of mutual interest, particularly problems arising in connection with present negotiations looking

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JAN 10 1938

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looking to the conclusion of a commercial treaty.

1/ A program of the Foreign Minister's activities while in Bucharest is attached hereto.

The Bucharest press welcomed the visit as a fitting manifestation of Balkan Entente friendship, pointed out the absence of any serious differences between the two countries, recited their many mutual interests, offered warm praise to Dr. Rustu Arras personally, and dwelt at length on the close cooperation between Antonescu and Rustu Arras in international affairs. A few brief 2/ extracts from representative comment, as well as an 3/ article appearing in the DIMINEATA quoting certain remarks made by Rustu Arras upon his arrival in Rumania, are enclosed herewith.

The Turkish Minister in Bucharest, Mr. Suphi Tanrioer, told me yesterday evening that he would be glad to inform me confidentially as to the details of the conversations of his Foreign Minister with Messrs. Tatarescu and Antonescu. I have accordingly made an appointment with him for tomorrow, and will report in a further despatch such information as I may be able to obtain from him on this subject.

Respectfully yours,

Leland Harrison.

Enclosures:
3 - As stated.
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t.
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Copy to Istanbul, Belgrade, Athens and Sofia.

Enclosure No. 1 to Despatch No. 346
of May 19, 1937, from the
American Legation, Bucharest.

# PROGRAM OF VISIT OF

# FOREIGN MINISTER RUSTU ARRAS IN BUCHAREST

## MAY 16-17, 1937.

....

May 16.

Met at Constanza by Turkish Minister to Bucharest and Foreign Office representative

10:25 A.M. Arrived at Bucharest

12 noon. Signed books of King Carol and of Queen Marie

12:30 A.M. to 1:30 P.M. Conversations with Antonescu.

1:30 P.M. Lunch given by Antonescu

In the afternoon conversations with Tatarescu and Antonescu

5 P.M. Visit to Prime Minister Tatarescu, followed by conversations with Tatarescu and Antonescu

9 P.M. Dinner at Turkish Legation

May 17.

11-12 A.M. Conversations at Foreign Office

1:30 P.M. Lunch at Palace

After lunch, Audience with King Carol

5 P.M. Visit to Russian Minister, Mr. Michail Ostrovski

7:15 P.M. Departure for Geneva, via Belgrade

Enclosure No. 2 to Despatch No.
of May 19, 1937, from the American
Legation, Bucharest.

(In Translation)

PRESS COMMENT REGARDING VISIT OF

TURKISH FOREIGN MINISTER TO BUCHAREST

.....

DIMINEATA (independent, democratic), of May 17, 1937.

It is clear that the exchange of views of the two Foreign Ministers will touch upon important questions in direct relation to the situation of our country.

We know Mr. Arras as a devoted and loyal friend of Rumania. We have no doubt, therefore, that the arguments of Mr. Victor Antonescu will find the desired echo in the Turkish Foreign Minister, so that today's visit will furnish good and useful results in the interest of Rumania.

CURENTUL (anti-Semitic, subsidized by National Liberal Government), May 17.

The Balkan Pact which indissolubly binds Rumania to Turkey, and the problems of the Black Sea, which were discussed in a spirit of reciprocal understanding at Ankara as well as at Bucharest, are decisive victories in the diplomatic collaboration of the two Ministers.

Turkey finds herself at this moment engaged in a number of Mediterranean treaties which cannot leave us indifferent, and Rumania, as a result of her policy, is pursuing a progressive amelioration of her relations with all neighbors. This is a moment of interesting diplomatic orientations, when international collaboration becomes more necessary than ever.

TIMPUL (independent), May 18.

There is no question in suspension between Turkey and Rumania which could render this visit necessary. But it is precisely this absence of a special preoccupation which increases the value.

Sometime ago, Mr. Rustu Arras, desiring to point out the inter-Balkan friendship, declared that the way towards the League of Nations passes through the two allied capitals: Belgrade and Bucharest. "Consequently", he said, "every time that I am called to the western capitals I shall have the pleasure of being the guest of our allies."

Today

Today Mr. Rustu Arras has found an opportunity to translate into fact this declaration.

AGENCE RADOR (Official News Agency), May 18.

The visit which Mr. Rustu Arras, Turkish Minister of Foreign Affairs, has rendered our Government has taken place in a cordial atmosphere. Also it was possible to note, during the Arras-Tatarescu-Antonescu interviews, a common desire to consolidate the ties of friendship between the two countries and the very great desire to create the necessary political climate for the safeguarding of peace in Southeastern Europe.

As a result of these conversations----as in the past----Rumania and Turkey will, during the meetings of the Council of the League of Nations which will take place next week, defend the idea of collective security, the respect of international engagements and the maintenance of peace.

The principal object of the visit of Mr. Rustu Arras has been the desire to find a compromise in view of the conclusion of a commercial treaty between our country and Turkey.

.....

Enclosure No. 3 to Despatch No. 346
of May 19, 1937, from the
American Legation, Bucharest.

REPORT OF REMARKS MADE TO PRESS BY

FOREIGN MINISTER RUSTU ARRAS

(Translated from DIMINEATA--independent,
democratic--of May 18, 1937.)

Mr. Arras replies to questions of the press correspondents:

I am glad to be among you again (Mr. Arras was last in Rumania some four years ago when the Balkan Conference met at Bucharest) and to have contact with the representatives of the Rumanian Government. In this period of striking international activity I must, certainly, have an exchange of views with the leaders of the allied countries. I hope to have the honor to pay homage to His Majesty the King. I shall have conversations with Mr. Victor Antonescu, Minister for Foreign Affairs, and we shall terminate the examination of present problems.

---

The Bulgaro-Yugoslav Accord is very natural and we look upon it with satisfaction.

---

With regard to the adherence of Bulgaria to the Balkan Entente, that depends in the first place on Bulgaria. If she enters she will be welcome. We cannot be responsible if some decide to exclude themselves. The masses of the Bulgarian people and the intellectuals have begun to understand the necessity of an orientation within the framework of the Balkan Entente. This entente signifies a fraternization of the Balkans and who enters is welcome.

Concerning the Italo-Yugoslav Pact, the Turkish Minister expressed the conviction that it does not in the least harm the solidarity of the Balkan Entente, but has the contrary effect.

---

Between ourselves and Rumania there is a friendship of peoples. Everything welds us and nothing disjoins us. I am certain that the Alexandretta problem will be settled at the League of Nations by the end of this month. The relations then between France and Turkey will become the best.

---

The relations with Soviet Russia are even better, more friendly and more solid. This serves the best interests not only of our two countries, but of our friends and of

international

international life.

---

After Geneva I shall visit Teheran and then Moscow, passing through Bagdad.

---

For Czechoslovakia we have sentiments of sympathy.

---

Otherwise, Turkey has no enemies. It may be said that our political axis is based on universal love. Evidently, there cannot be equality in the relations with the other states. There are nuances; but they always start from a minimum of cordial relations.

---

To the remark that there has been talk of a Mediterramean Pact, he replied that "this pact exists in spirit. We must give this spirit life. The countries on the Eastern Mediterranean and of Asia Minor are the most pacific. Peace, we are convinced, is based, among other things, on the strength of the army. For this reason Turkey desires that all her friends live in peace based on equilibrium of armaments and that these friends be most strong in all domains. There is no immediate danger of war. In this regard I can say nothing sensational. There is somewhat of a state of uneasiness. Besides, in this domain you should ask me every six months for a new prognosis so as not to risk it appearing out of fashion."

---

The League serves a good purpose. Its strengthening will be a consequence of the amelioration of private relations. In the course of this session I hope a satisfactory conclusion will be reached on the Alexandretta question. After a brief vacation I shall resume diplomatic activity and I shall have the pleasure to receive at Ankara, on the occasion of the national festivities of the Turkish Republic, the visit of Mr. G. Tatarescu, your President of Council, and of Count Ciano, Italian Minister for Foreign Affairs.

.....

LEGATION OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Bucharest, June 2, 1937.

No. 357

Subject: Visit of Turkish Foreign Minister to Bucharest; Conversation with Turkish Minister to Rumania.

CONFIDENTIAL

767.71/16

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE
JUN 16 1937
A.C/C

STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL

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JUN 25 1937
DIVISION OF NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

The Honorable

The Secretary of State,

Washington.

Sir:

Referring to the ultimate paragraph of my despatch No. 346 of May 19, 1937, reporting the recent visit to Bucharest of Mr. Rustu Arras, Turkish Foreign Minister, I have the honor to report that after some delay on account of his being indisposed, I called upon my Turkish colleague, Mr. Suphi Tanrioer, and obtained from him the following information:

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JUL 30 1937

In addition to a general review of the present political situation, Mr. Rustu Arras and Mr. Victor Antonescu, Rumanian Minister for Foreign Affairs, had

given

given particular consideration to a recent incident that had taken place at Philippopolis, Bulgaria, where the local Bulgarian military commander had seen fit to give Greek place names such as Kavala, etc., to certain regiments under his command. Incidents of this character, although perhaps of trivial importance in themselves, might have serious consequences, and the two Foreign Ministers had discussed the desirability of a joint démarche by the members of the Balkan Entente at Sofia. This suggestion would likewise be taken up at Belgrade and Athens.

note 768.74

Mr. Suphi Tanrioer also explained the general lines of Turkish foreign policy as set forth by Mr. Rustu Arras. Turkey would never be opposed to England or Russia. These are cardinal policies. Turkey maintained and desired good relations with Bulgaria. She would be happy to see the Balkan Pact strengthened and possibly enlarged. In this connection she had looked with favor upon the recent rapprochement between Yugoslavia and Bulgaria, although in certain quarters there had been some apprehension of the possibility of a united South Slav State comprising some twenty-two million people. The danger point for Balkan peace lay in the Greek-Bulgar relationship. Any differences between Rumania and Bulgaria were more easily susceptible of friendly adjustment. The Yugoslav-Italian understanding had pleased Ankara. It was but natural that Belgrade should have taken advantage of Rome's offer to settle their differences. Turkey's relations

note 767.00

with

with Italy had improved and it was Turkey's desire to see peace maintained in the Mediterranean. The present danger point was Spain.

As thus explained by the Minister, his Government's principal preoccupation in the foreign field at this time is the furtherance of peace and the maintenance of permanent friendly relations with Great Britain and Soviet Russia.

Respectfully yours,

Leland Harrison.

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THE FOREIGN SERVICE
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DEC 7 1937
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

1937 NOV 16 PM 3 03

DIVISION OF COMMUNICATIONS AND RECORDS

AMERICAN EMBASSY

Ankara, Turkey,

November 1, 1937.

No. 390

Subject: Visit of M. Tataresco, Prime Minister of Rumania.

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE
ASSISTANT SECRETARY
OF STATE

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
NOV 17 1937
DIVISION OF
NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

767.71/17

The Honorable

The Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to report that M. Georges Tataresco, Prime Minister of Rumania, who arrived in Ankara on October 28 and left at midnight on October 30, 1937, was the principal guest of the Turkish Government during the celebrations of the Proclamation of its Independence.

1/ There are enclosed herewith a French version, as it appears in LA RÉPUBLIQUE of October 31, 1937, of an official communique issued after his departure by the Turkish



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Turkish Government through the Anatolian Agency, and
2/ an English translation thereof. According to this announcement the Rumanian Prime Minister took advantage of his visit to Ankara to discuss different aspects of the international situation as well as Rumanian-Turkish political and commercial relations.

Respectfully yours,

Robert F. Kelley

Robert F. Kelley,
Chargé d'Affaires ad interim.

Enclosures:

1/ - Official communique of October 31, 1937 (French version);

2/ - English translation.

Copy sent to Bucharest.

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SMW:mej

Enclosure No. 1 to Despatch No. 390 of November 1, 1937, from the American Embassy at Ankara, Turkey.

LE COMMUNIQUÉ OFFICIEL

(LA RÉPUBLIQUE of
October 31,1937).

Ankara, 30. A. A. Ce soir, le communiqué suivant a été publié:

Son Excellence Monsieur Tataresco, président du conseil des ministres de la Roumanie, est arrivé le 28 octobre à Ankara en vue de faire une visite amicale au gouvernement de la République et de prendre part comme hôte de la Turquie aux sollennités de la fête nationale.

Lors de cette visite, Son Excellence M. Tataresco a été reçu par le Président de la République turque, Kémal Atatürk.

Les entretiens ont eu lieu, d'autre part, entre Messieurs Tataresco, Celal Bayar et Tevfik Rustu Aras, au cours desquelles les hommes d'Etat des deux pays ont examiné les différents aspects de la situation internationale et ils ont constaté que, par les liens étroits qui unissent les pays de l'Entente Balkanique, des efforts fructueux ont pu être déployés pour la cause de la paix et de la collaboration des peuples à laquelle l'Entente Balkanique est résolument attachée. Cette concordance de vue et d'intérêt est susceptible de permettre aussi pour l'avenir un travail fécond à réaliser en commun.

Les relations commerciales entre la Turquie et la Roumanie ont également fait l'objet d'un échange de vues qui a permis de constater la volonté qui anime les hommes d'Etat turcs et roumains sur une meilleure édification de la structure d'échanges entre les deux pays et il a été décidé qu'un rajustement des accords de commerce existants serait prochainement entrepris à Bucarest.

La visite de Son Excellence Monsieur Tataresco a permis de constater une fois de plus la solidité des liens d'amitié entre les deux pays alliés.

---

Enclosure No. 2 to Despatch No. 390 of November 1, 1937, from the American Embassy at Ankara, Turkey.

OFFICIAL COMMUNIQUE issued at Ankara through the Anatolian Agency.

(LA RÉPUBLIQUE of October 31, 1937).

His Excellency M. Tataresco, Prime Minister of Rumania, arrived at Ankara on October 28th, to make a friendly visit to the Government of the Republic and to take part in the solemnities of the national holiday.

During this visit His Excellency M. Tataresco was received by the President of the Turkish Republic, Kemal Atatürk.

Conversations were held between Messrs. Tataresco, Celal Bayar and Tevfik Rüştü Aras, during the course of which the statesmen of the two countries examined the different aspects of the international situation and they ascertained that, by the close ties which unite the countries of the Balkan Entente, fruitful efforts could be shown for the cause of peace and for the collaboration of peoples on whom the Balkan Entente is firmly dependent. This concordance of views and of interests is susceptible also of permitting the common realization of fruitful work in the future.

The commercial relations between Turkey and Rumania were equally the subject of an exchange of views which evidenced the desire of the Turkish and Rumanian statesmen to build up better machinery for trade relations between the two countries and it was decided that the readjustment of the existing commercial accords would be undertaken at Bucharest in the near future.

The visit of His Excellency M. Tataresco has shown once more the solidarity of the links of friendship between the two countries.

---

LEGATION OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

No. 7 Bucharest, November 3, 1937.

Subject: Tatarescu Visits Ankara and King Carol Shoots in Czechoslovakia as Stage is being Set for Political Crisis.

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DEC 8 1937
ASSISTANT SECRETARY
OF STATE

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
NOV 20 1937
DIVISION OF
NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

The Honorable

The Secretary of State,

Washington.

767.71

Sir:

I have the honor to report that Prime Minister Tatarescu returned to Bucharest day before yesterday following a two-day visit to Ankara, where he attended the celebration of the Turkish national holiday on October 29th in response to an invitation extended to him on the part of the Turkish Government by Foreign Minister Rustu Aras in the course of his stop-over in Bucharest last May (despatch No. 346 of May 19, 1937). General Ion Sichitiu, Rumanian Chief of Staff (until November 1st, when he was retired and replaced by General

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DEC 21 1937

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General Stefan Ionescu in connection with a sweeping weeding-out and retirement of military officers effected on that date), was also in Ankara for the occasion, having previously attended the Conference of the Chiefs of Staff of the Balkan Entente States.

The Prime Minister's trip to Turkey was reported perfunctorily by the local press, deriving its principal interest from the assurance it afforded that the now imminent cabinet crisis would, as already suggested (despatch No. 450 of October 21, 1937), not break during the "October truce".

That the prophets who some weeks ago placed the eventual change of Government in the second week of November were fairly accurate was further borne out by the departure last night of King Carol for Czechoslovakia, where he and Crown Prince Mihai will participate in a shooting party at the invitation of President Benes. It is expected that he will return on November 7th, and in the meantime there will be a series of dedications of statues and other ceremonials carrying through the 9th, all of which lends support to the general belief that the present Government will tender its resignation some time between the 10th and the 15th. Thus the National Liberals, called to power November 14, 1933, will have governed the full four years provided by the Constitution, a feat otherwise not accomplished since the Ion I.C. Bratianu regime of 1922-1926; the present Parliament will have had its four ordinary sessions in its Constitutional four years of life; and, it is reported, Tatarescu will have achieved his cherished aim of

becoming

becoming a "Senator by Right" by virtue of his (nearly) four years' service as Head of the Government.

It is presumed by most observers that the present Parliament, whose opening was prorogued from October 15th to November 15th (despatch 449 of October 19, 1937), will be dissolved by Royal Decree just prior to the latter date.

The relative positions of the various political parties---some twenty in all---seem to remain substantially unchanged, although there is naturally a constant jockeying which might at any time bring to either of the two admittedly major parties, the National Liberals and the National Peasants, one or more minor party elements to swing the balance. A general coalition of the small parties or a combination of the moderate and extreme rightists is not generally believed likely. That the issue is so beclouded is undoubtedly due in great part to the generally acknowledged fact that, when all is said and done, it will be the will of King Carol rather than the judged results of party skirmishes that will determine the formation of the new Government.

Respectfully yours,

Franklin Mott Gunther

Franklin Mott Gunther.

800

t.

CKH/BFG

767.71

# DOCUMENT FILE

## NOTE

SEE 871.001 Carol 11/139 FOR despatch #724

FROM Turkey (MacMurray) DATED June 29, 1938

TO NAME 1—1127 GPO

767.71/19

REGARDING: Relations between Turkey and Rumania

Visit of King Carol to Istanbul. No information concerning reasons underlying the visit. It has been inferred King Carol asked Turkey's cooperation in stiffening Balkan resistance to possible German expansion in the Balkans and that Ataturk requested assurances with regard to the improved functioning of the Turco-Rumanian Clearing Agreement.

dg

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DIVISION OF NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

July 29, 1938.

File

Mr. Welles:

Mr. Secretary:

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
AUG 1938
DIVISION OF
NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

In view of the growing importance of Turkey's rôle in big-power policies in Europe resulting from her developing rapprochement with England and France, the attached memorandum of a recent conversation between the Turkish Foreign Minister and Mr. Kelley, our Counselor of Embassy, is of unusual interest.

Wallace Murray

UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE
JUL 29 1938
MR. WELLES

ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE
AUG 17 1938
MR. BERLE

THE FOREIGN SERVICE
OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

AMERICAN EMBASSY

Istanbul, Turkey,

July 14, 1938.

No. 743

SUBJECT: Turkish Discontent with Rumanian Policy.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUL 20 1938
DIVISION OF
NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
1938 JUL 26 PM 2 31
DIVISION OF COMMUNICATIONS AND RECORDS

FOR DISTRIBUTION - CHECK Yes No
To the Field
In D. C. A.

767.71

The Honorable

The Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

1/ I have the honor to enclose, for the Strictly Confidential information of the Department, a memorandum of conversation between the Minister for Foreign Affairs and an officer of the Embassy in which Dr. Aras severely criticized the present Rumanian Government for its attitude towards its obligations to Turkey and its endeavors to establish what he termed a "Warsaw-Bucharest axis".

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
A-M/C
AUG 2 1938
ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE

AUG 25 1938
FILED

The

767.71/20

The Embassy will forward promptly any further information which it may obtain with regard to developments in Rumanian-Turkish relations.

Respectfully yours,

J. V. A. MacMURRAY.

4 Carbon Copy
Received R.F.K.

Enclosure:

1/ - Memorandum of Conversation dated July 14, 1938.

Copy sent to American Legation, Bucharest;
Copy sent to American Legation, Athens;
Copy sent to American Legation, Belgrade;
Copy sent to American Legation, Sofia;
Copy sent to American Embassy, Paris.

710

RFK:mej

Enclosure No. 1 to Despatch No. 743 dated July 14, 1938, from the American Embassy, Istanbul, Turkey.

767.71/20

COPY

STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL

Istanbul, Turkey, July 14, 1938.

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

SUBJECT: Turkish Discontent with Rumanian Policy.

PARTICIPANTS: Dr. Tevfik Rüştü Aras, Turkish Minister for Foreign Affairs, and Mr. Robert F. Kelley, First Secretary of Embassy.

PLACE AND DATE OF CONVERSATION: Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Ankara, July 12, 1938.

Upon Rumania being mentioned Dr. Aras launched into a vigorous denunciation of the Rumanian Government. He said that Rumania and Poland were seeking to establish a Warsaw-Bucharest axis, and that Rumania was endeavoring to bring pressure to bear on Turkey to join this"miniature axis". Turkey would have nothing to do with such maneuvering. Turkey would be loyal to her friends, - Great Britain, France and Russia, - and would not play Germany's game. Turkey was in fact sick and tired of Rumania. Rumania had shamelessly ignored her obligations to Turkey. She had not carried out the commercial agreement concluded with Turkey last January. The time had come to make Rumania pay for her misdeeds. The Minister was preparing a memorandum on this subject for the Council of Ministers. He thought that it might be best to exclude Rumania from the Balkan Entente and replace her by Bulgaria. That would teach Rumania a lesson. She would then have Hungary, Bulgaria and Russia on her neck and she would be in a much more difficult

position

position than Czechoslovakia is now. Furthermore, Rumania would soon find out that she would not get very far with regard to loans and credits in London. When Turkey ceased to be a friend of Rumania, Turkey's friends, - Great Britain, France and Russia, - would make life hard for Rumania.

The Minister said that nothing could be more ridiculous than Rumania trying to play the rôle of a great power. She had an army much weaker than that of Turkey and she was much poorer in resources. Rumania had always broken her obligations. She had always been unfaithful to her friends and allies. She was even now betraying in a disgraceful way her ally Czechoslovakia.

Dr. Aras apologized for speaking so frankly to a non-Balkan diplomat. He requested me to treat his remarks in confidence. Now that the Hatay (Alexandretta) situation was settled he would be able to give his full attention to the Rumanian problem. He said that Turkey never had a Rumanian problem until Rumania had become her ally. Ever since that time Turkey has had nothing but trouble from Rumania.

In response to an inquiry as to who was behind the present Rumanian policy Dr. Aras said that he did not know - possibly it was the King, but more likely it was the new Prime Minister, whom I gathered Dr. Aras thoroughly distrusted.

R. F. K.

Copy to Ankara.

RFK:mej

# DOCUMENT FILE

## NOTE

SEE 740.00/826 FOR Tel. #494. 7pm

FROM Great Britain ( Kennedy ) DATED Apr. 15, 1939

TO NAME 1—1127 GPO

REGARDING: Turkish proposal that Bulgaria should be brought into the Balkan Entente: Suggestions to the Rumanian Government concerning the -.

767.71/21

21

hr

767.71

# DOCUMENT FILE

# NOTE

767.71/22

SEE 771.00/67 FOR #833

FROM Rumania ( Hibbard ) DATED April 5, 1939

/†ϕ/ NAME 1—1127 GPO

REGARDING:

Rumanian Foreign Minister to visit Ankara to enlist Turkish collaboration in developing better relations between Russia and Rumania.

ml

# DOCUMENT FILE

# NOTE

SEE 761.67/173 FOR Tel. 58- 6pm

FROM Turkey (MacMurray) DATED April 24,1939

TO NAME 1—1127 GPO

REGARDING: Relations between Turkey and Rumania. It is possible that the forthcoming consultations between Potemkin, Soviet Vice Commissar for Foreign Affairs and the Turkish authorities may give occasion for the Turkish Government to take some part to bring about a closer understanding with Rumania.

fp

7671.71/23

767.71

# DOCUMENT FILE

## NOTE

767.71/24

SEE 771.00/69 FOR despatch #867

FROM Rumania ( Gunther ) DATED Apr.18, 1939

TO NAME

1—1127 ***

REGARDING: Visit of Foreign Minister Gafencu to Istanbul, Turkey

Reports - and quotes communique issued at the close of the conversations

dg

# TELEGRAM RECEIVED

DIVISION OF EUROPEAN AFFAIRS
JUN 14 1939
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

CA

This telegram must be closely paraphrased before being communicated to anyone (B)

FROM ANKARA

Dated June 12, 1939

Rec'd 6 p.m.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUN 13 1939
DIVISION OF NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

Secretary of State

Washington

83, June 12, 6 p.m.

STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL

767.71/ note 740.0D

One. Present indications are that in the course of conversations incidental to the visit of the Rumanian Minister for Foreign Affairs, the latter is endeavoring to dissuade the Turkish Government from giving more definite form to the guarantee of security in the Balkans as contemplated in the Anglo-Turkish declaration of May 12, his argument being that any definite agreement to that end would lead to Yugoslavia being forced into a combination with Italy and Hungary. The negotiations for an agreement carrying out the purposes of that declaration are nevertheless proceeding.

Two. The Turks appear to be endeavoring, although with slight prospect of success, to persuade the Rumanians to concede to Bulgaria at least the possibility of a future consideration of her territorial claims in the hope that this would suffice to assure Bulgarian neutrality if not

active

767.71/25

FILED

NM

active support in the event of war. I understand that in conversation with Gafencu the British Ambassador has referred to the desirability of such an arrangement.

MM 6/13/39

Repeated to Bucharest.

MACMURRAY

NPL EMB

# TELEGRAM RECEIVED

HRE

1—1336

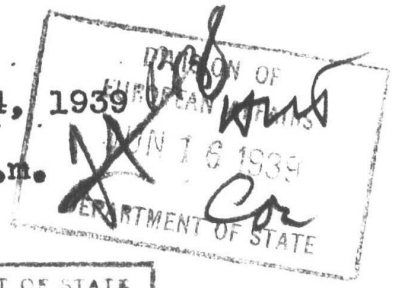
FROM

ANKARA

This telegram must be closely paraphrased before being communicated to anyone (B)

Dated June 14, 1939

Rec'd 4:16 p.m.



Secretary of State

Washington

85, June 14, 6 p.m.

STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL.

My telegram No. 83, June 12, 6 p.m.

767.71/26

761.71 mte 140.00

One. I was informed today by the Secretary General of the Foreign Office that the discussions with the Rumanian Minister for Foreign Affairs had proved eminently satisfactory The Minister had been fully reassured and felt that he could relieve the apprehensions of the Yugoslavs that the Balkan Entente or Yugoslavia in particular would be drawn into a position of hostility to the Axis by reason of the Turkish understanding with Great Britain. Numan had set forth the viewpoint that that understanding has nothing to do with the Entente as such although it affects Greece in consequence of its provision as to the security of the Mediterranean and involves an indirect Turkish guaranty of Rumania; as for Yugoslavia, Turkey neither proposes a guarantee of that country against its will nor would find it possible to give effect to such an obligation in the event of attack by a major power.

NM

Two. My informant gave me to understand that he was not for the present hope (hopeful?) of doing much with the Bulgarians beyond inducing them not to make trouble. The Rumanians had been willing to make some concessions to them in the matter of minority rights and in economic matters such as in enabling grain to be exported from the Dobrudja at less than its domestic price: but the Bulgarians were overestimating strength of their position and in a very exigent mood and refused to consider anything less than full satisfaction of their territorial claims on all frontiers. He said that he himself had had very stormy interview with the Bulgarian Minister on this subject. He expressed the conviction that although Bulgaria has a considerable nuisance value in a time of peace, there is no great reason for anxiety about her action in the event of a German or Italian invasion of the Balkans, since she would have in self defense to join in resisting drive whose objective would be possession of the straits which would involve for the invader the necessity of taking absolute control over Bulgarian territory.

Three. He confirmed that negotiations for definitive treaty with the British are proceeding satisfactorily and will be supplemented with economic discussions and by military conferences shortly to be undertaken here by a British staff delegation.

741.67

Repeated to Bucharest.

MACMURRAY

NPL:EMB

767.71

# DOCUMENT FILE

## NOTE

SEE 770.00/631 FOR Tel. #504, 8pm

FROM Germany ( Kirk ) DATED June 15, 1939

TO NAME 1—1127 GPO

REGARDING: Gafencu's trip to Ankara and Athens: Germany's interest in the outcome of - is reflected in the press by the relatively sparse editorial comment thereon. A semi-official Foreign Office publication asserts that a policy of independence and neutrality is incompatible with a coalition policy, as far as Rumania and Turkey are concerned.

767.71/27

27

hr

REB

GRAY

Berlin

Dated June 15, 1939

Rec'd 3:15 p. m.

Secretary of State,

Washington.

504, June 15, 8 p. m.

Germany's interest in the outcome of Gafencu's visits to Ankara and Athens is reflected in the press primarily in the amount of space accorded to news despatches in regard thereto. The relatively sparse editorial comment which has thus far appeared on the subject describes Gafencu's trip as an attempt to reconcile the basic neutrality of the Balkan Entente with the Anglo-Turkish treaty and questions the possibility of achieving this. As an indication of such intentions on Gafencu's part the semi-official Foreign Office publication cites his address in Ankara in which he is said to have assigned the duty to Turkey to watch over the security of the Straits and to Rumania to watch over the Danube basin and to have stated that since they were defending general interests they were determined to act in a spirit of understanding, conciliation and impartiality, maintaining the best possible relations with all powers. The article then calls attention to the "considerable doubts"

entertained

REB



entertained by the axis powers as to "whether actual facts more particularly alliances such as those reciprocally entered into by Turkey with a group of powers of which the political opposition toward and friction with both powers are obvious still permit the fulfillment of such super national tasks". In conclusion it is asserted that a policy of independence and neutrality is incompatible with a coalition policy especially as the obligations and consequences resulting from it become more and more undefinable and that therefore Turkey is faced with the choice of deciding unequivocally whether it wants to be treated as a southeastern European bridgehead for foreign interests or whether it attaches importance to carrying out wholeheartedly the mission outlined by Gafencu.

KIRK

CSB

EMBASSY OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

RECEIVED
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

1939 JUL 11 PM 1 45

Istanbul, Turkey,
June 26, 1939.

DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS

No. 1121

SUBJECT: Visit to Ankara of Rumanian Minister for Foreign Affairs.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUL 12 1939
DIVISION OF
NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

767.71/28

ADVISER ON POLITICAL RELATIONS
MR. DUNN
JUL 15 1939
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

CONFIDENTIAL

FOR DISTRIBUTION CHECK Yes No
To the Field

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUL 17 1939
ASSISTANT SECRETARY
OF STATE

767.1
note
74.0.60
770.60

DIVISION OF
EUROPEAN AFFAIRS
JUL 27 1939
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

THE HONORABLE

THE SECRETARY OF STATE,

WASHINGTON, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to report that the Rumanian Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr. Gregory Gafenco, visited Ankara from June 11 to June 13, 1939. Following his sojourn in the capital he went to Yalova, accompanied by the Turkish Minister for Foreign Affairs, where he was received by the President of the Republic, Ismet Inönü. The ceremonies usual in connection with visits of distinguished foreign officials took place upon Mr. Gafenco's arrival and departure, and a series

of

FILED
JUL 31 1939

of official functions were given in his honor, which included a luncheon by the Prime Minister, a dinner and reception by the Turkish Minister for Foreign Affairs, and a dinner and reception by the Rumanian Ambassador.

1/ There is enclosed, for the Department's information, a translation of the official communiqué which was issued to the press with regard to Mr. Gafenco's visit.

The principal subjects of discussion between the Rumanian Minister for Foreign Affairs and his Turkish hosts were the representations made by Yugoslavia with regard to the Anglo-Turkish Mutual Assistance Pact, and the question of the relations of Bulgaria to the Balkan Entente. With respect to the first question, the Embassy understands that the Rumanian Minister for Foreign Affairs explained to the Turkish Government the views of Yugoslavia with respect to Article 6 of the above-mentioned Pact, and its apprehensions with regard to the effect of the Anglo-Turkish Pact on the Balkan Entente. The Rumanian Minister pointed out the danger of Yugoslavia being forced into a combination with Italy and Hungary in the event that Article 6 resulted in a guarantee of the security of the members of the Balkan Entente. I have been informed by the Secretary General of the Foreign Office that the Turkish Government made it clear that a guarantee of the security of the Balkan Entente was not contemplated under Article 6 of the Anglo-Turkish Pact and that Turkey not only did not propose to enter into any obligation involving the guarantee of Yugoslavia, but would not find it possible to enter into such an obligation even if Yugoslavia desired it. The Secretary General stated that the Rumanian

Minister

Minister had been fully reassured and felt that he could relieve the apprehensions of Yugoslavia, that either the Balkan Entente or Yugoslavia in particular would be drawn into a position of hostility to the axis powers in consequence of the Turkish understanding with Great Britain. It would appear that the Rumanian Minister expressed his agreement with the Turkish viewpoint that there was no conflict between the Anglo-Turkish Pact and the Balkan Entente. The Secretary General stated that the position taken by the Turkish Government was that the two agreements were separate matters and that the Anglo-Turkish Pact had nothing to do with the Balkan Entente as such, although it affected Greece in consequence of its ensurance of security in the Mediterranean area and involved an indirect Turkish guarantee of Rumania. In this connection it is to be noted that the Turkish Prime Minister, when presenting the Franco-Turkish Declaration to the Grand National Assembly on June 23, 1939, stated that Article 6 of this Declaration (which is identical with Article 6 of the Anglo-Turkish Declaration) "is in no wise of such a nature as to modify the rights and duties of the members of the Balkan Entente. This Entente, not being identified in any way with the Turco-British or the Turco-French agreement, preserves its full and complete independence and its character of independent factor in the service of peace".

With regard to the second question, that of the relations of Bulgaria to the Balkan Entente, no progress appears to have been made in the matter of bringing Bulgaria into the Balkan Entente. I gathered from my conversation with the Secretary General that the Turkish Government is now not

not hopeful of doing much with the Bulgarians beyond inducing them not to make difficulties. The Secretary General stated that the Rumanian Government had been willing to make certain concessions to Bulgaria in the matter of minority rights and in economic matters, such as enabling grain to be exported from the Dobrudja at less than its domestic price. Turkish endeavors to persuade the Rumanian Government to concede to Bulgaria at least the possibility of a future consideration of her territorial claims do not appear to have met with any success although the British Ambassador referred in a conversation with Gafenco to the desirability of such an arrangement. The Embassy understands that the Rumanian Minister, in discussing the question of Rumanian territorial concessions to Bulgaria, took the position that such concessions were out of the question not only because they would open the door to territorial demands by other countries but also because any territorial concession to Bulgaria would be followed by further demands on the part of Bulgaria. The Secretary General stated to me that the Bulgarians were in a very exigent mood and were insisting on the full satisfaction of their territorial claims on all frontiers, i. e., against Rumania, Yugoslavia, Greece, and Turkey. He himself had had a very stormy interview with the Bulgarian Minister on the subject of Bulgarian claims. He expressed the conviction that there was no need for anxiety with regard to Bulgaria's attitude in the event of a German or Italian invasion of the Balkans. He felt that Bulgaria would be obliged in self-defense to join in resisting any invasion directed

towards

towards the conquest of the Straits since it would be necessary for the invader to take absolute control over Bulgarian territory.

It would appear from information obtained by the Embassy from various reliable sources that the conversations at Ankara disclosed an identity of view between the Rumanian Minister for Foreign Affairs and the Turkish Ministers with regard to (1) the desirability of preserving and strengthening, if possible, the Balkan Entente and (2) the community of interest between Turkey and Rumania arising out of the fact that each country is confronted with the necessity of insuring the security of its territory and respect for its independence. With regard to the first point, it will be noted that the official communiqué states that the Rumanian Minister and the Turkish Minister for Foreign Affairs have confirmed "their common attachment to the unity, independence and peace policy of the Balkan Entente" and consider the Entente "indispensable to the order in the Balkans and more and more necessary to European peace". In his speech at the dinner given by the Turkish Minister for Foreign Affairs on June 11th, Mr. Gafenco stated:

> "We are aware that the Balkan Entente, instrument of peace, union, and fraternal collaboration between neighboring peoples, an Entente which is not directed against anyone and which does not exclude any Balkan people, is necessary to peace and the European balance of power. Thus we have decided, loyally united with our Greek and Yugoslav friends, to assert and prove on every occasion the usefulness and importance of this Entente".

It is believed that the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the two countries are in full agreement as to the desirability of Bulgaria's participation in the Balkan Entente. While the Turkish Minister for Foreign Affairs would like to see Rumania adopt a more conciliatory attitude

attitude towards Bulgarian claims than Rumania is apparently prepared to take, it is not thought that there is any considerable divergency of views between him and Mr. Gafenco with regard to the maximum price which should be paid for Bulgaria's adherence to the Balkan Entente.

As concerns the second point, it would appear that the Turkish and Rumanian statesmen are agreed that their two countries are under the necessity of having recourse to understandings, outside of the Balkan Pact, in order to insure their security since each country controls a strategic position of great international importance, particularly in time of war - Turkey, the Straits, and Rumania, the lower Danube. While Rumania is not in a position to enter into mutual assistance pacts similar to those concluded by Turkey, it is in full sympathy with the steps taken by the Turkish Government to insure its security. It shares the Turkish viewpoint that the mutual assistance pacts concluded by Turkey with Great Britain and France are instruments of peace, which are independent of the Balkan Pact, but which, in fact, supplement and strengthen it. The community of interest between Rumania and Turkey arising out of their geographic situation was set forth as follows by Mr. Gafenco in his speech on June 11th:

> "We owe to this sentiment of friendship the correct comprehension of the mission which Turkey and Rumania have to fulfill in common. Destiny has assigned to us within the framework of our national development similar tasks of a great European importance. You are watching over the security of the Straits with all the authority of a State renovated under the leadership of a great reformer by a splendid movement of national regeneration. We are watching over the freedom of the lower Danube, by placing in the service of a mission which is becoming more and more important, renewed energies resulting from the reforming action of a wise and courageous King. These

similar

similar tasks so closely bound one to the other require us to recognize and correctly appraise our duties of international solidarity. We are defending interests of general importance. We have decided to do it in a spirit of understanding, conciliation, and impartiality while endeavoring to maintain the best relations with all countries. But we can realize our mission so useful to us and to the others only by assuring with vigilance the security of our territory and respect of our national independence. These assets, which are dear to us above everything else, represent furthermore, in view of our geographic situation, a superior interest of international importance".

Respectfully yours,

J. V. A. MacMURRAY.

Enclosure:

1/ - Official communiqué from ANKARA of June 22, 1939.

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RFK:mej

Copies sent to: Athens, Belgrade, Bucharest, and Sofia.

2 carbon copies
Received 7P

Enclosure No. 1 to Despatch No. 1121 dated June 26, 1939, from the American Embassy at Istanbul, Turkey.

TRANSLATION SOURCE: ANKARA, June 22, 1939.

OFFICIAL COMMUNIQUÉ

Mr. Gafenco, Rumanian Minister for Foreign Affairs, who arrived at Ankara on June 11 on an official visit had, during his stay in the Turkish capital, several conversations with Dr. Refik Saydam, Prime Minister, and Mr. Şükrü Saracoglu, Minister for Foreign Affairs.

The President of the Republic, who is residing in the country, received Mr. Gafenco in audience at Yalova on June 14.

This official visit has once more emphasized the faithful and deep friendship between the Turkish and Rumanian peoples and the staunch solidarity of the ties which unite them.

The confiding conversations between Mr. Saracoglu, Turkish Minister for Foreign Affairs, and his Rumanian guest, the Acting President of the Council of the Balkan Entente, has permitted the two Ministers to confirm their common attachment to the unity, independence and peace policy of the Balkan Entente.

The two Ministers see in this Entente an instrument of fraternal union and joint action among neighboring peoples, indispensable to the order in the Balkans and more and more necessary to European peace.

RS:mej

# CROSS-REFERENCE FILE

## NOTE

**SUBJECT** Rumanian-Turkish cooperation in event of war;

While the King was in the Bosphorus he formulated plans with Turkish Ministers for-

mb

767.71/29

**For the original paper from which reference is taken**

29

See Tel. #140, 3 p.m.
(Despatch, telegram, instruction, letter, etc.)

Dated Aug. 15, 1939 From / To Rumania (Gunther)

File No. 740.00/2058

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 1—1540

# CROSS-REFERENCE FILE

## NOTE

SUBJECT King Carol while in Turkey pressed for the early conclusion of a Turko-Rumanian military agreement.

767.71/30

For the original paper from which reference is taken

See ~~740.00/2100~~ Tel. 45, 7 pm
(Despatch, telegram, instruction, letter, etc.)

Dated ~~Aug. 22, 1939~~ From / To } Turkey (MacMurray)

File No. 740.00/2100

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 1—1540

mb

# CROSS-REFERENCE FILE

## NOTE

SUBJECT Turkish-Rumanian relations;

Since the King's conversations in Turkey and his return here his attitude has stiffened and is more inclined than ever to resist by force of arms any attempt at aggression.

767.71/31

For the original paper from which reference is taken

See Tel. #146, 4 p.m.
(Despatch, telegram, instruction, letter, etc.)

Dated Aug. 22, 1939 From/To Rumania (Gunther)

File No. 740.00/2103

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 1—1540

mb

767.71

# CROSS-REFERENCE FILE

## NOTE

SUBJECT Turkey had made it clear that unless an alliance should be signed between the Soviet Union, France and England, Turkey could not give military assistance to Rumania.

767.71/32

For the original paper from which reference is taken

See Tel. #1543, 5 p.m.
(Despatch, telegram, instruction, letter, etc.)

Dated Aug. 22, 1939 From / To France (Bullitt)

File No. 740.00/2106 Confidential File

Confidential File

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 1—1540

mb

Central File: Decimal File 767.71, Political Relations Of States, Relations; Bi-Lateral Treaties., Turkey And Romania, October 20,1933 - Aug. 22, 1939. October 20, 1933 - August 22, 1939. MS Turkey, Greece, and the Balkan States: Records of the U.S. Department of State, 1930-1944: Records of the Department of State Relating to Political Relations of Turkey, Greece, and the Balkan States, 1930-1939. National Archives (United States). Archives Unbound, link.gale.com%2Fapps%2Fdoc%2FSC5111393795%2FGDSC%3Fu%3Domni%26sid%3Dbookmark-GDSC. Accessed 21 June 2025.